The Macdonald FARM Journal

. 23, No. 2 February, 1962

Potatoes and Quebec

Wildlife on Farm Lands

THE MACDONALD LASSIE

Editorial

The Purple Cow!

The dairy industry, the unhealthiest sector of our agricultural economy, was the subject of our attention in an editorial last June headed: "Missing — A National Dairy Policy". Having just seen the results of meetings of major farm organizations, the Dairy Farmers of Canada and the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, and having witnessed six months of diddling by federal and provincial governments, this month's heading seems more appropriate now. The blustering indecision, cross-accusations, inaction and hopeless pretending would lead one to believe that the present situation of the dairy industry is much like that of the beautiful daughter, very pregnant and just as much unwedded, in a dignified family. Apparently the two responsible levels of government and the producers are refusing to face facts.

Some of the facts are these. Canadian dairy farmers are producing more milk than consumers are willing to purchase at present prices. This extra production, due to the prevailing government price support programme, is being channelled into butter production, of which Canada has an undeniable surplus. Canada has a very minimum of about 250,000 dairy farmers (a dairy farmer being anyone having 3 or more milk cows) — which is about 100,000 (minimum) dairy farmers too many for a healthy industry. The 1956 census reported 398,604 dairy farmers of which 237,000 had herds of 7 or less milk cows.

Archaic dairy marketing legislation in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario (Ontario appears to be rushing towards 1962 as rapidly as possible) has led to the establishment of somewhat privileged groups and has divided producers, discouraged quality improvement and both encouraged and forced expansion by some producers. There is a wide range in quality of raw milk offered for sale and no generally accepted national standard. Margarine consumption is increasing while per person butter and fluid milk consumption decreases.

It is obvious that there will be no single panacea for all these ills. Rather, the solution will be of many parts and will take the form of emergency and long run measures. In our opinion most farm organization recommendations coming from January meetings are of an emergency type. And even they are not complete. Recommendations which urge a quality standard for milk acceptable in all parts of Canada or an updating of provincial dairy marketing legislation are conspicuous by their absence. Whether the Dairy Farmers of Canada admits it or not, these two missing links in any short term policy reflect the fears and divisions within dairy farmer ranks, however well or ill-founded such fears are.

Over the long term the goal of any Canadian dairy policy should be to reduce the number of dairy farmers. It is inconceivable that any farm operation, unless it has other sidelines, could be profitable with less that 20 cows. It is equally inconceivable, if the predictions of the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects are reasonably accurate, that Canadians could ever consume within the next 20 years the amount of dairy products that would be necessary to keep present dairymen operating profitable units.

If we can speed up our economy, conditions outside of agriculture will attract some farmers out of the industry. We could hurry the process up even more by provision of programmes for retraining of persons for jobs requiring special skills. If we keep tightening up on quality, which the industry must do if it is to compete with dairy substitutes, the very small dairy operation will be discouraged from continuing as will large but incompetent units. Basically the unprofitable 5 and 6 cow unit is not an industry problem, except for a small amount of poor quality milk, but a social problem.

In view of the appearance of cheap fat substitutes, there should be diligent inquiry into the solids-not-fat in milk. It may well be time to shift the emphasis to solids-not-fat content of milk as a selling point. Certainly any long range programme should not look to the old standby, butter, to support the industry. Other products, such as powder and cheese or combinations of these look to be much better bets as dairy industry supports now.

Provincial dairy marketing legislation has already been mentioned and condemned. Let's take the case of Quebec. If, back in 1925, the regulations then applied, and most of which still exist although frills may be modified, were intended to assure consumers of quality milk for drinking purposes, as seems most likely, we have moved a long way from their basic function today. These regulations have become both an umbrella and a curse to a group of milk producers selected more or less by chance originally.

They are an umbrella because they allow the fluid shipper to obtain a much higher price for his milk than other producers. They are a curse because they force him to produce an excess of milk every year just to maintain his quota. They also force "inefficient" production — maximum production during high-cost periods of the year, and expensive substitute herd purchases in cases of breeding troubles. It is also likely they protect some poor managers because, to a certain extent, they have made it unnecessary for that group of producers to meet the stiff competition within the industry — competition which must be faced sooner or later.

If quality is the basic function of the present regulations, which cordon fluid milk producers off from other dairymen, there are other, better ways of assuring quality today. There must be a few quick, simple tests of milk which would provide sufficient indication of quality. Surely most dairymen would be glad to improve quality if given any incentive. Provincial dairy legislation should be changed to remove the disparity between prices paid to different

(*Continued on page* 39)

INDEX

VOL. 23, NO. 2 FEBRUARY, 1962

	Page
Editorial	27
Observations	28
Potatoes and Quebec	30
Wildlife on Farm Lands	32
Pasture Management	34
Disinfect Your Soil	35
Saving Enriched Farm Manure	36
Future of Strawberry Growing in Quebec	38
Marketing Agreement for New Breed of Timothy	39
Country Lane	40
St. Francis College, Richmond	41
The Community Supper	42
The Better Impulse	44

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

Macdonald Tobacco Company	26
Ralston Purina Company Ltd.	29
National Salon of Agriculture	31
Coopérative Fédérée de Québec	48

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BACKWARD LOOKING!

Did you ever notice the different ways in which people act when confronted by a given situation. Take, for instance, a law or public regulation. It can be assumed that regulations are made to simplify procedures and establish some norms for action. They must be interpreted to be of any value. Now some people read a regulation and immediately think of all the things which, in their opinion, it prevents them from doing. Others read a regulation and immediately try to establish how much freedom of action they have, how much leeway it gives them?

I submit that regulations governing our marketing boards in the Province of Quebec have been interpreted in the former, negative manner. I also submit that by so doing they are weakening themselves and fulfilling only half their responsibility. They could, and should, provide their members with information on the products they are responsible for marketing — market information, production information and quality information. Right now they are failing these responsibilities miserably although they are trying to do their best at establishing conditions of sale. They are failing because they have negatively interpreted a provincial ruling designed to prevent misuse of funds of local marketing boards.

HEN . . . OR EGG MACHINE

The story of the last thirty years of agriculture is dramatically illustrated by the case of the hen. In 1930 Ontario hens struggled valiantly to produce 83 eggs each. By 1959 they were tossing them off at a rate of 200 per bird. That's an average increase of 5 eggs per bird per year. 1962 should, if the trend continues, show us something like an average production of 210-215. At this rate we're not far from the time when the hen will have to lay two eggs a day! Question: will the hen then be a hen or an egg machine?

There's no disputing it — agriculture is a dynamic industry.

BUCKINGHAM AGRICULTURAL CO-OP REPORTS

Buckingham Agricultural Co-operative has reported a business volume of $535,637 for the year 1960-61. Of this 60% can be attributed to the production of butter of which the Co-op made 358,290 pounds. Farm supplies and consigments of animals accounted for the balance of its activity. The Co-op reported 162 members at year end.

COVER

The Macdonald campus on a clear cold winter night. Can you tell when this picture was taken? Three guesses . . . and go back to yesteryear. Picture dates back to 1949 or earlier.

EMPLOYERS! ATTENTION!

An employment list of 1962 4th year agricultural graduates is available. It provides background, option, employment preferences and pictures of graduates. Obtainable free of charge from Prof. John Bubar, Macdonald College, P. Q.

the day PURINA was wiped out

May 26th, 1896 was a great day in the life of young William Danforth. On that day he completed a transaction for the stock of his two partners. Young Will became president and majority stockholder of the Purina Mill in St. Louis, Missouri.

On May 27th, 1896, a tornado ripped through St. Louis and completely wiped out the business. There was no tornado insurance in those days and Will had used all his money to buy the stock. He was penniless. As he walked through the ruins of his mill he realized that overnight he had become president and majority stockholder of a block of broken brick and smashed machinery.

It was just two years since he had left school and gone into the feed business. In those days farming was the largest business in America. Feed Stores were as common as gasoline stations are today . . . and competition was just as keen. It was as if you were to leave school tomorrow and buy a one-third interest in one independent service station and hope it would grow into the biggest gasoline company on earth! Will hadn't dreamed that the company he headed would become the greatest feed company in the world . . . but he and his partners had worked so hard that it had become the best feed store in St. Louis.

If Will Danforth had let it end there . . . if Purina had died on that windy evening almost 75 years ago, farming today might be quite different. Because, Purina has been one of the real pioneers in poultry and livestock feeding. Purina was first to market a poultry mash; first with cubes and pellets (Checkers to the world); first with a dry feeding program for calves; first with extruded-type Dog Chows. Purina has led in new management and feeding practises, too; pioneering and leading the way with Pig Parlours, high energy feeds, Built-in Roughage programs, and so many others.

Perhaps young Will Danforth sensed some of this role that his company could play in the years ahead. Because, the one thing the tornado of 1896 could not crush was Will Danforth's spirit. He joined the hundreds of penniless businessmen who were converging on St. Louis' banks; the thousands who seemed to be asking for loans. Some had security; some had nothing to offer but their desire to get back into business.

Young Will Danforth went and asked for $25,000.00. It was a fortune in those days. But Will got it. And a new Purina Mill grew from the rubble. A building that is still being used by Purina today! Probably the most amazing thing about this story is the thing that the banker asked as security for the $25,000.00 loan. But, that's our next chapter in the story of a young man who came out of college, started into the feed business, and built a company that is helping farmers and feeders to a better way of life, today in Canada, the United States, Mexico, France, Italy, Germany, and much of Central and South America.

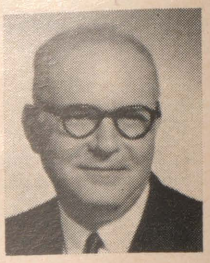
Watch for Chapter II entitled "I'm going to let you have $25,000.00 on one condition!"

Canadians who want bigger profits tomorrow feed Purina Chows today.

RALSTON PURINA COMPANY, LIMITED
WOODSTOCK TORONTO WHITBY MONTREAL SAINT JOHN

Experimental potato plots at Macdonald College. This method of spraying is a far cry from that used by commercial growers. Potato industry has become heavily mechanized.

Potatoes AND Quebec



by Prof. H. R. Murray
Department of Horticulture

During World War II the November 8, 1941 issue of the Toronto Star Weekly reported that the British Medical Association expressed the view that if Britain was limited to two foods, the best choice would be potatoes and milk. Apart from the food value of the potato this is sound reasoning because people seldom tire of potatoes and in this respect they are very much like bread.

From the standpoint of being a world's food, the potato crop totals well over 7 billion bushels a year and ranks in importance with wheat and rice. However, because of its bulk in relation to value and the highly perishable nature of the fresh crop, potatoes must be considered as being more important in domestic than in international trade. But this picture could very well change. During the past three or four years newer dehydration processes have come into use so that now the consumer can purchase dehydrated potatoes in many different forms which, when reconstituted, compare favourably with a well prepared product from the fresh tubers. In fact, in many cases this newer product is better than that which is prepared from the fresh tubers, because great care is exercised in both producing the raw material and then in processing it. Also, processing companies now employ well-trained quality control officers who follow their processed material into the kitchens of the consumer.

Climate and Soils Important

Potatoes do best when they are grown and matured in a relatively cool, moist climate. Thus, the large commercial areas are mostly found in the countries of the north temperature zone and in the more northern portions of these countries. In some countries, such as the United States, in the southern portions where the warmer summers are followed by cooler periods, off-season crops of potatoes are grown for shipment north and thus starts the "new potato" season each new year. This production gradually moves north, commonly called the "march of the seasons", and it finally merges into our Canadian season which starts in southwestern Ontario during the latter days of June and moves into Quebec during the early days of July. By reason of having a climate ideally suited to potatoes, the Maritime growers of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island have established the potato as the mainstay of their agricultural economy, both from the standpoint of certified seed and table stock. This has also been assisted by certain considerations which have been made in the way of freight rates to outside markets.

Soil also plays an important part in the production of good yields of high-quality potatoes. The medium to lighter types of well drained soil are preferred, although a considerable acreage is grown on the so-called muck lands, but many consumers do not like these "swamp potatoes". They feel that the potatoes grown on the so-called "organic soils" are inferior to the ones grown on the mineral or upland types.

Quebec is major producer, best market

In Canada, the potato is still one of our most important crops in our agricultural economy as well as the most important vegetable crop, and it ranks fifth as our most important field crop. From the standpoint of acres, Quebec and Ontario are the leading provinces in the production of Canadian potatoes. They produce in the close neighborhood of fifty per cent of the acreage and about fifty per cent of the production.

In all provinces, as the years roll by, we note that, whereas the total acreage planted to potatoes does not change appreciably, the acre yield and total production nevertheless increases substantially. These increases in acre yield and total production are largely due to the more general use of better seed and better varieties, the more intelligent use of fertilizers and the more efficient control of insects and diseases.

Where do we stand insofar as Quebec is concerned? As already pointed out, Quebec produces about twenty-five per cent of all potatoes produced in Canada and also has one of Canada's best, if not the best, market. But Quebec's Maritime neighbours depend more

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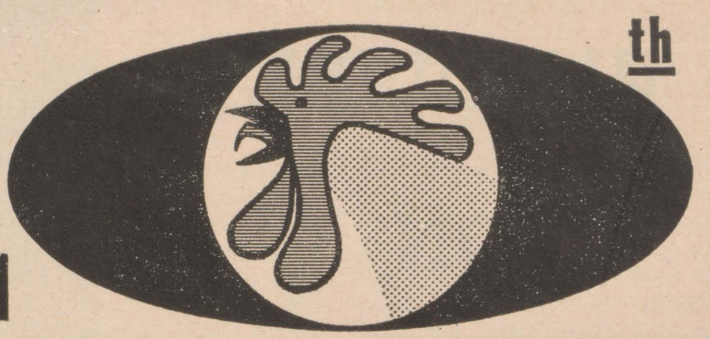

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than Quebec upon potatoes for a large part of their total agricultural revenue and the production of these three provinces is equal to Quebec's in acreage — that is about twenty-five per cent and they produce about thirty-five per cent of Canada's total production. Admittedly, a large quantity of the Maritime potatoes are grown as certified seed for export, but, in spite of this fact, these provinces are Quebec's greatest competitors for the home table stock market.

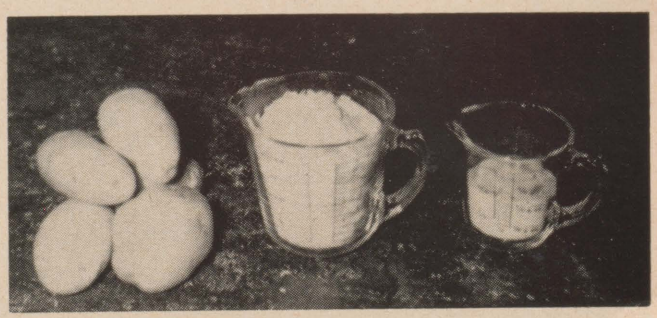
During 1959 and 1960, Montreal received approximately 3,763,800 and 3,681,600 bags of potatoes respectively of which 3,489,000 and 3,523,800 were from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and 248,400 and 162,000 were from Quebec. 1961 being a year of overproduction the Maritimes receipts are likely to be considerably lower. In any case the above figures would indicate that Quebec could and should supply a much larger part of its own market requirements.

But, to do this efficiently, it means that the Quebec potato growers will have to organize, they will have to produce a good uniform grade of potato and, at the same time, produce a potato of outstanding quality, produce it cheaper than their competitors and provide adequate storage. They will also have to produce under an attractive brand name and do some really good advertising. Right from the beginning the Quebec farmer has had the advantage of lower transportation costs to his market, but if he is wise he will not trade on this too much. Quality by appearance and quality on the table must be his first considerations, coupled with a consistent supply. If he can capture the market by quality under the Quebec brand he has started, then he is on the road to success. Later on he can be shown the finer points in marketing and how to take advantage of any new opportunities.

We have heard a lot about growing potatoes for the processing industry. In Quebec, at least at the present time, this usually means growing potatoes for chipping or for dehydration, or both. We all agree that every possible outlet of sale is important to our potato growers, but no matter how much any type of processing can and will absorb our potatoes, we will still be largely dependent upon the fresh market for the bulk of our sales. Four hundred thousand bags of potatoes can be considered as a good yearly operation for a processing plant but such an operation only absorbs the produce from about 1500 acres. However, should we be able to establish and expand an export market for our dehydrated products, then this picture could very well change and become immensely important.

Next month Professor Murray will continue by outlining the more modern methods of production and at the same time he will deal more fully with producing for the processing industry.

BEFORE and AFTER



Dehydrated products may give the potato a new importance — especially in export trade.

WILDLIFE ON FARM LANDS

Proper cover and food will attract upland game birds. For example, partridge (note bird to left of white stake) which has taken cover in the ground vegetation.

"A unique type of land community. Can it supply future wildlife recreational needs?"

by Mr. Peter MURTHA

Department of Woodlot Management.

Wildlife Management on agricultural land is not as far-fetched as it seems. It does not encourage a perpetual state-of-war between man and wildlife. Man and wildlife can and should co-exist in the same regions. As long as man recognizes the fact that wildlife is an integral part of the land community, wildlife will receive the proper consideration in any land management programme. But as long as man considers wildlife as (1) something that "has been" or (2) a necessary evil, man will not enjoy the full benefit of the true value of wildlife.

With his methods of farming, man has created a unique type of land community. This community can be compared to the "pioneer stage" of development in relation to the natural communities. Many species of game have adapted themselves to this type of community, such as deer, fox, rabbit, grouse, Hungarian partridge, and pheasant. They make it possible for wildlife management to be carried out even in highly developed agricultural regions. Instead we have areas that are even more suited to the wildlife management programmes — areas of roughland, gullies, wooded hills, pasture land and woodlots. Yet on few, if on any of our lands, have wildlife management programmes been initiated. The question is WHY?

Perhaps the reason is the age-old feud between the land-owner and the hunter — or even lying back of this, the farmer feels he is producing something on his land but he is not benefiting from it in any way. Now the question reverses to — "How can it be made profitable for the farmer to produce wildlife on his lands?" Can it be accomplished by leased hunting rights, government subsidy, payments based on a tally of the game harvested, active participation in Federal Government's A.R.D.A. (Agricultural Rehabilitation Development Act), or in Quebec's "Consolidation of Agriculture," or should the returns be monetary? Whatever way is the best, it should be remembered that in wildlife management moral and aesthetic considerations have a status at least equal to that of economic considerations.

Ponds attract many forms of wildlife, help to maintain ground water, and aid in fire protection.

Habitat Improvement

In the past, a more or less negative approach has been taken concerning the increase in game populations. The most common and widespread approach has been through the preservation of the breeding stock by means of game laws. This type of approach has

been successful up to a point, but passing laws doesn't help bring the game population into balance with the lands ability to produce food and cover. Another method has been the introduction of artificial breeding stock. This stock has usually consisted of exotic species, completely unadapted to the environment, and as a result did not survive.

The most effective, and by far the cheapest approach to wildlife management is *habitat improvement*. The destruction of habitat is usually the reason for the game population decline in the first place. This is the area in which the farmer can help, mainly because, if habitat is lacking, protection laws and game stocking are useless.

When it comes to habitat improvement, the farm woodlot and other pieces of land which are not under a specific agricultural crop provide the ideal basis for wildlife habitat. Everybody knows the time worn expression "variety is the spice of life", — the same thing applies to wildlife. Hence variety is the keynote of a habitat improvement programme. Under natural conditions the best variety of vegetation is found along the "edge" of the woodlot. It is in this location that the largest number of game species thrive. Game will also be found along brush grown hedge rows, brush piles, unharvested patches of grain, shocked corn, and irregularly planted areas of shrubs and evergreens. In the open pasture their numbers are just as low as in the dark, dense, inner portion of the woodlot. In situations where cattle have been "exercising" in the woodlot, all the "edge" has been lost and all the protective cover for wildlife has been lost. In this case, the woodlot is for all practical purposes a wildlife desert!

But all this still does not answer the question, "How do you improve the habitat to provide increased game populations?" Consider the following categories: (a) cattle, (b) methods of cutting, (c) ponds.

(a) *Cattle.* Dealing with the grazed woodlot first, the best thing possible is not to allow the cattle to "exercise" in the woodlot. The grazed woodlot is neither a good pasture nor a good woodlot. The farmer would benefit greatly if he makes it one or the other, but not both. Wildlife management policies can be applied to a pasture or to a woodlot, but a grazed woodlot is useless.

(b) *Cutting.* For those that have kept the cattle out of the woodlot a different approach must be taken. Keeping in mind the idea of *variety* and of *edge* effect, normal woodlot operations can be carried out. When cutting, a *"group selection"* cut should be employed, the groups should be up to one-fifth acre in extent. An increased area of *"edge"* caused by the patch cutting will result. These groups should be spread regularly throughout the woodlot. If the whole woodlot is operated in this fashion, there will always be regions of young growth — which is exactly the type of habitat that most game desires — a habitat which provides adequate food and shelter. This method of cutting will also give a yearly return from the woodlot from the harvest of forest products. Shelter will be available especially if the brush and slash is collected and piled over stumps. When the limbs of the tree are being cut off it only takes a few extra minutes to collect the branches and place in suitable piles. The piles should be large enough so that they cannot be upset by wind or by a hunter. These brush piles provide shelter for several years. A few extra minutes spent while cutting in the woodlot will be returned many times with the wildlife crop and the hours of fruitful recreation it will produce.

(c) *Ponds.* If possible, it is desirable to develop a pond close to the woodlot. Ponds are beneficial to all forms of wildlife and attract additional game species which prefer a semi-aquatic form of life — such as beaver, muskrat, mink, otter, ducks and geese. When a pond is constructed for the benefit of wildlife, the cattle should not be allowed to use it as a water hole. If the pond was meant to have a double purpose — for cattle and for wildlife — the portion of the pond which the cattle will be using should be fenced off and the cattle kept to that portion. When the

(*Continued on page* 39)

The grazed woodlot (right) is neither a good woodlot nor a good pasture. It can be one or the other, but not both. Grazed woodlots are wildlife deserts. Note the abundance of cover in the ungrazed portion of the woodlot.

Large group selection cuts result in increased areas of "edge". The young growth supplies food and cover for the wildlife population.

THE FAMILY FARM
PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE FARMERS OF THE PROVINCE
BY THE
QUEBEC DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Compiled by T. Pickup, Agronome, of the Information and Research Service, Quebec Department of Agriculture.

Pasture Management

Good pasture is necessary to any successful beef or dairy farm.

Those of our readers who are interested in beef cattle, and many dairy farmers too, will be interested in the following information taken from a bulletin entitled "What's the Score on your Pasture?" published by the Ontario Department of Agriculture. This summary was originally given in December, as part of the Sherbrooke Agricultural Broadcast, by Mr. W. G. MacDougall, County Agriculturist.

In general, a good beef pasture program will:

1.—Increase the carrying capacity of the farm;

2.—Increase yield of beef per acre;

3.—Reduce or eliminate the need of supplemental feeds while cattle are on pasture;

4.—Reduce production costs.

In a cow and calf program, good pasture: A.—Increases weaning weights of calves; B.—Maintains cows in better condition and reduces the need for grain feeding in the winter; C.—Cuts down the grain used in creep feeding.

In producing stockers and in finishing steers, good pasture:

1.—Increases the carrying capacity of the land;

2.—Increases the yield of beef per acre and the gain per steer;

3.—Eliminates the need for supplemental feeding on grass;

4.—Can eliminate, in finishing steers, the need for grain feeding until the last 30 to 60 days, and also reduces the amount of grain required in the last 30 or 60 days.

The management of the pasture program for beef production is very similar to the pasture management for dairy cattle. It is essential to produce a large volume of beef per pasture acre. To do this, the farmer must grow a heavy volume of grass per acre so that a large number of cattle can be carried on the farm. Further, it is necessary with both dairy and beef production to use a system of grazing that will avoid pasturing mature plants. It is necessary to have reasonably young, not coarse and nature plants available, so that the cattle will not waste too much of the pasture.

How Good Is Pasture?

Thus the question arises, how good is the pasture? A poor pasture requires 4 acres per cow or steer, an average pasture 1⅓ acres, a good pasture: 1 acre, an excellent pasture: ¾ of an acre. The objective: ½ acre. This statement might be put in another way. A poor pasture will produce 1200 pounds of milk per acre, or 50 pounds of beef for the season. An average pasture would give 3700 pounds of milk or 140 pounds of beef, whereas a good pasture would give 5000 pounds of milk or 225 pounds of beef. An excellent pasture: 7400 pounds of milk or 325 pounds of beef.

A good pasture program results from using good soil fertility practices on good plants, then grazing the resultant growth in such a pattern as to convert this to a maximum volume of beef or milk. It

(*from page* 35)

Herefords on the farm of Mr. Edward Detchon at West Hatley.

Gardeners, Disinfect Your Soil!

The time for sowing seed in greenhouses and hotbeds will soon be here, if it hasn't already arrived for some crops. In the case of early sowings in February and March, there is always a risk of losses from the damping-off or decay of the young plants, especially if the conditions for germination, emergence and growth are poor; for instance, if the soil remains cold and damp or is slow to warm up, if the humidity is very high, if the weather is dull, rainy or snowy, or if there is no sunshine for several days on end.

At this time of the year, the surest way of preventing the damping-off and rotting of flower or vegetable seedlings is to disinfect the soil before sowing the seed. There are several ways of disinfecting soil. Limiting himself to the simplest of these, the use of a disinfectant powder (more particularly thiram or "Arasan"), Mr. Edouard Lavallée of the Quebec Department of Agriculture, gives the following information.

The method has been used with great success for several years. Thiram or "Arasan" is usually sold by seedsmen in the form of a powder containing 75% of tetramethyl thiram sulphide. A 50% powder may also be obtainable.

There are two forms of thiram powder: one of these, Thiram S.F., is specially prepared for treating seeds by the wet method and is not suitable for treating soil because it is more likely to form lumps and mixes very poorly with talc powder. The other is the ordinary, more powdery form which mixes very easily with talc. It is known as thiram or "Arasan" and is the kind to buy for the purpose of disinfecting soil.

Direction for soil disinfection. The method is quite simple and is carried out as follows:

1) Prepare the surface of the soil as well as possible by smoothing it and removing the lumps;

2) Mix the thiram powder with eight to ten times as much talc. (Talc is an inert, white powder, the object of which, in this case, is merely to make the disinfectant easier to apply);

3) Spread the mixture of thiram and talc evenly over the surface of the soil;

4) Gradually but thoroughly mix the disinfectant with the soil, with the aid of a hoe. Two repetitions of the mixing process will ensure a more effective incorporation of the disinfectant;

5) Sow the seed.

Amount of thiram to use: The quantity of thiram required is very small in comparison with the quantity of soil. The exact amount will vary with the texture of the soil and the depth at which the seeds are to be sown. In general, it is recommended that 2 ounces of thiram be used for every 100 square feet of surface, or about 1½ ounces for a seed-bed measuring 6 feet by 12 feet. For those who prefer to disinfect while they are making their soil mixture, one ounce will be enough for 9 cubic feet of soil. If it is merely a question of treating a single flat of soil, use one level teaspoonful for a flat measuring 22″ x 11″ x 3″. (One ounce of thiram is equal to about 7 level teaspoons).

It would obviously be very difficult to spread small quantities of disinfectant like this evenly over such large surfaces of soil, without first mixing it with a "carrier" such as powdered talc.

This method of soil disinfection calls for a little extra work and cost (about one dollar per 100 square feet) but the moderate expense of time and money are amply repaid by the assurance of a plentiful supply of healthy seedlings.

This kind of disinfection is satisfactory for most types of seedlings and it is particularly recommended for soil in which the seeds of flowers and the following vegetables are to be sown: beets, onions, peppers, cucumbers and others. Since celery and tomato seeds are sensitive to thiram, it is advisable to use a little less disinfectant in their case.

For sowings of crucifers only (cabbage, cauliflower, turnips, etc.) thiram is a good soil disinfectant but PCNB (pentachloronitrobenzene) mixed with the soil in the same way and in the same proportions, has proved even better.

In closing, Mr. Lavallée tells us that those who study the diseases of plants have a slogan: "Plant diseases are not cured, they are prevented". The object of soil disinfection is to prevent the damping-off of seedlings.

PASTURE MANAGEMENT . . .

(*from page* 34)

includes other management practices such as harrowing, clipping and weed control to maintain high production over many years. It includes planning to have feed at the correct growth stage available when the cattle need it. This sometimes means providing a feed reserve to be used in periods of pasture shortage.

Getting the most out of pasture, therefore, means considering all these many aspects of pasture management. The best combination must be worked to suit the particular farm operation. The result or objective is a pasture program that will produce 6000 to 8000 pounds of milk per acre, or beef for 10¢ to 12¢ per lb.

A good pasture program is an important part, but still only a part, of a farm forage program. Good pasture, good hay, good corn or grass silage make up the forage combination. Farmers who are having high production of milk, or producing beef at a minimum cost, have paid attention to all three of the forage team. They have worked out not only a good pasture program, but also an over-all balanced forage program.

This pamphlet continues to outline what comprises a good pasture, including pasture mixtures. Four systems of pasture are outlined for various types of farming. There is also a fertilizing program.

The Grazing System

The grazing system is fully laid out. Some system of controlled grazing is necessary to make good use of the pasture grown. Cattle allowed free access to a large field and kept on the field all summer, or even for one or two months, will waste a large amount of feed. It costs a lot to produce good pasture; therefore, wastage must be kept to a minimum. Rotational grazing is suggested for most farms. Some farmers use other systems such as strip grazing, green feeding or

(*Continued on page* 36)

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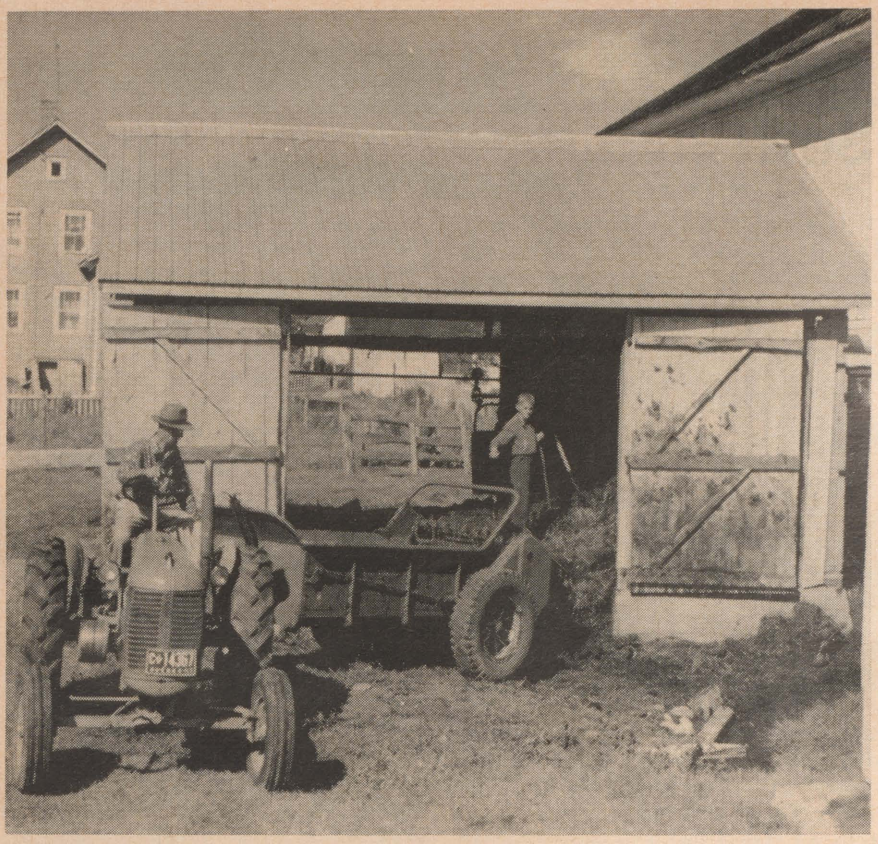

A good manure shed pays for itself by preventing loss of fertilizing elements on the farm of Gérard Morin at Saint-Denis de Kamouraska.

SAVING AND ENRICHING FARM MANURE

Farm manure is a valuable fertilizer containing the mineral elements and the organic matter from the crops and feedstuffs, which the animals do not use up. Manure contains the three basic fertilizer constituents: nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash and, in addition, traces of calcium and minor elements in varying proportions, depending on the kind and age and feed of the animals. The liquid part of manure is the richest in nitrogen and assimilable potash, while the phosphoric acid is found mainly in the solid part. In the light of these facts, the following advice about the conservation, handling and enrichment of farm manure will be more easily understood.

Inside the barn: the floor should be tight enough to prevent seepage and the litter plentiful enough (sufficiently absorbent) to retain as much as possible of that vital "salt of the earth" — manure. Straw, (if chopped) is superior to any other litter because it absorbs well, decomposes easily and is grown on the farm. An additional good way of reducing losses which occur when manure is handled is to "fix" the more soluble and changeable components by scattering hygroscopic phosphate ("stable-phos") in the gutters and in the alleys. One pound per day per head, in the case of cattle and horses, is the rate of application best suited to maintain and improve the value of the droppings.

Outside the barn: the ideal place to store manure is a covered shed or pit specially built for the purpose. It is better to keep manure firmly packed and reasonably moist so that the products of its fermentation are not lost. In the absence of a manure shed, it is advisable to store manure in large rectangular piles (slightly hollow on top) in the field on which it is going to be spread, with as little handling and loss as possible. Thus, the two main ways of getting the best out of farm manure are by adding phosphate to it in the barn, and by handling and storing it properly so as to prevent losses.

The granting of government subsidies and the spending of the farmer's own money for the purchase of commercial fertilizers will yield only half the results expected of them if we do not also do everything in our power to put a stop to the loss of humus from our soils. André Birre has written: "A scrap of humus which disappears means one more chance of war or risk of famine. Just as the life of the soil lies at the root of prosperity, so the soil's humus is the womb of its life, nourished and animated by the waters and the atmosphere, and the heat of the sun." The organic matter in manure helps to maintain the balance of water and nutrients in the soil and spreads and nourishes the bacteria and other micro-organisms which are needed for the life and vitality of the soil.

Mr. Nazaire Parent, of the Quebec Department of Agriculture, urges us to make a good resolution for the future, to conserve better the manure and urine which are the gold and the silver of our land.

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This page supplied in the interests of the Family Farm by the Quebec Department of Agriculture.

PASTURE MANAGEMENT . . .

(*Continued on page* 35)

grass silage.

In rotational grazing, the field is divided into sections, so that the herd moves to fresh pasture at least every seven days, rather than having access to a large field for one or two months or even for the season.

The results are:

1.—Pasture yields are higher;
2.—Milk production remains more constant from day to day;
3.—Grazing is more uniform, less feed is wasted.
4.—Surplus in early season may be cut as hay or silage;
5.—Legumes last longer, and overgrazing in September is avoided;
6.—It is easier to keep the necessary supply of forage.

Copies of the bulletin may be obtained at a small cost from the Publication Branch, Department of Agriculture, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ontario. Ask for publication 542. "WHAT'S THE SCORE ON YOUR PASTURE?". Readers are also reminded that the following publications may be obtained free of charge from the Information Division, Quebec Department of Agriculture, Parliament, Quebec City: Bulletin No. 22, "Pastures for Quebec", by L. C. Raymond; and Bulletin No. 159A, "Beef Cattle Production", by L. H. Hamilton.

SOWING TOMATO SEED

Sowings of tomato seeds are made between the 15th of March and the 5th of April: about the 15th of March for the early crop; between the 25th of March and the 1st of April for the main market crop and canning crops; and, finally, from the 1st to the 5th of April for late crops.

The seed is sown in flats, in hot-beds or in the greenhouse bench, the soil in which the seeds are sown being a very important factor in success. A good soil for tomato seedlings is made up as follows: one part of well-rotted manure, one part of loam, and one part of coarse sand. In greenhouse benches or hot frames, a depth of at least six inches of this soil mixture should be placed and, furthermore, it should be disinfected to protect the seeds, seedlings and young plants from damping-off and decay.

The Information and Research Service of the Quebec Department of Agriculture makes the following recommendations for disinfection. Use thiram 75% powder (Not thiram 75% S-F, which is oily and unsuitable for this kind of work). Allowing 2 ounces of thiram for every 100 square feet of surface of the bed, first mix the fungicide with three to four times as much powdered talc; then sprinkle the mixture on the soil (which should not be too wet). Mix the powder thoroughly with the soil with the help of a rake.

Prepare the bed for sowing by making it perfectly level, firming it down in the middle and particularly round the edges next to the sides of the flat or frame, in order to allow for shrinking and settling following watering. Make furrows four inches apart, about half an inch deep and two inches wide. Distribute the seeds as evenly as possible over the bottom of the furrows and cover them to a depth of two or three times their own diameter. Then, using a board, tamp down the bed so that the seeds will be in close contact with the soil, thus ensuring more even germination.

When the young plants have emerged, allow them a reasonable amount of ventilation by opening up the greenhouse, or raising the frames of the hot-beds, otherwise they will grow spindly and be more susceptible to decay. The temperature of the greenhouse or hot-beds should never go below 50°F at night, nor above 85°F during the day.

TOWARDS A CANADIAN DAIRY POLICY

The agriculture of the Province of Quebec is suffering from some serious deficiencies, for which geographic factors are partly responsible. We all know that marginal farms are particularly numerous at the extremities of our country; that is to say, in British Columbia, in the east of Quebec and in the Maritimes.

But the weaknesses of Quebec agriculture are also partly due to a lack of farming lore amongst the French Canadians and to the fact that our farmers have been left on their own for too long. The present agricultural policy of the Government of Quebec is to provide for the farmers of our province sufficient general and professional education and instruction, and credit and agricultural guidance to allow them to exploit the possibilities of their circumstances to the utmost of their ability.

As regards the dairy industry, production in Quebec corresponds very closely to the needs of the consumers of the Province. We still have progress to make in increasing efficiency and lowering costs of production.

As is the case throughout Canada, we also have to organize the orderly marketing of dairy products. In this connection, I must tell you that we have no intention whatever of adopting a policy of isolation or independence. On the contrary, I emphasize that it will only be possible to solve these problems of marketing with the full co-operation of the governments of Canada and of the Provinces, and by a joint action of the governments and the milk producers of the two great dairy provinces of Canada: Quebec and Ontario.

I wish to congratulate the Dairy Farmers of Canada for the impressive recommendations which their association drew up and presented at the Dominion-Provincial Agricultural Conference in Ottawa last autumn. They are a most important contribution to the solution of the problems of the Canadian dairy industry.

It is by the combined efforts of all of us together — dairy farmers, agricultural associations, government authorities in Ottawa and in the provinces most concerned that we shall solve these problems, gradually no doubt, but in the near future, by organizing at last a comprehensive dairy policy, progressive and realistic — **a Canadian dairy policy.**

by Hon. A. Courcy, Minister of Agriculture for Quebec to Annual Meeting of Dairy Farmers of Canada, Montreal, January, 1962.

This page supplied in the interests of the Family Farm by the Quebec Department of Agriculture.

Department of Horticulture

Three head of Herefords on the farm of Mr. Edward Detchon.

Jocelyne Labrecque picking strawberries at Beaumont in Bellechasse County.

ESSAY ON SHEEP

The "Ladies of the Golden Fleece", Auxiliary to the Manitoba Sheep Breeders, is sponsoring an Essay Contest in conjunction with the "All Canada Sheep Show 1962". *The title and subject of the essay is to be "The Sheep Industry in Canada".*

The rules of the contest are as follows:

1) *The essay shall contain not less than* 500 *words and not more than* 700*;*
2) *The competition is open to any rural student in Grades* 10, 11 *and* 12, *and in Grade* 13 *where such is the senior High School grade;*
3) *Any source of material may be used for reference, but the actual wording and writing of the essay must be the student's own effort;*
4) *The essay must be in the hands of the Secretary, Mrs. Phyllis Paskewitz, NINETTE, Manitoba, by May* 1*st,* 1962.

The prize *is an all-expenses-paid trip to the "All Canada Sheep Show", Provincial Exhibition, BRANDON, Manitoba, July* 2*nd-*6*th,* 1962.

This includes round trip fare to Brandon, billeting at congenial homes, trips to the Exhibition and other points of interest, supervised by Ladies of the Golden Fleece.

Alternative prize: *A winner unable to take advantage of the trip, will be awarded* $75.00.

THE FUTURE OF STRAWBERRY GROWING IN QUEBEC

The results of an investigation made by the Provincial Horticultural Service strongly suggest that the future of strawberry growing in Quebec is seriously threatened at the present time. Unless energetic and immediate measures are taken to solve certain problems facing growers and others engaged in the marketing and processing of strawberries, we are likely to witness the disappearance of an industry which has been with us for a long time.

As a first definite step resulting from its findings, the Horticultural Service has set up a committee to study this crop. The committee consists of two sections; one for the Quebec region, the other for the Montreal region. The Quebec section held its first meeting on the 14th of December; the Montreal section on the 19th. The committee is made up of persons engaged in the growing, marketing, or processing of strawberries, and of workers and technicians.

The committee has made a list of the problems confronting the strawberry industry. The chief of these are: dissatisfaction of the processors with the berries offered to them; discontent of the growers as regards the returns for their crop; the difficulty of satisfying certain markets which have very special requirements; the competition of imported products (particularly from Holland and Mexico); and the inability of many of those concerned to adapt to present market demands and conditions.

The first thing to be considered is the question of what varieties to grow. Everyone agrees that "Senator Dunlap" no longer satisfies the requirements of either the fresh fruit market or the processors. The Horticultural Service is now multiplying stocks of a number of varieties bred by Ottawa, which seem to be better suited to the different requirements. Heads of the processing industry have told the committee that they wish to try out these varieties more completely in connection with particular procedures.

The present average yield of a ton and a half to the acre is definitely not enough. The committee believes that the use of virus-free plants of the new varieties, and the adoption of new and better-devised growing methods, would enable Quebec's strawberry production to compete successfully with its rivals. One strawberry grower, who is a member of the Committee, obtained a crop of eight tons to the acre thanks to the new varieties and good management.

Strawberries imported from Holland and Mexico are amazingly uniform and high in quality: moreover processors do not have to pay any more for them than they do for fruit of poor quality grown in Quebec. The processors say that they are prepared to buy our strawberries even at a slightly higher price, but only on condition that they are of good quality. They would also like to enlist the help of the inspectors of the Department of Agriculture in ensuring a high standard of quality of the berries.

Mr. Roger Bédard, the secretary of the Committee, says that one of the points raised at the meetings was the indifference of many growers to new varieties, up-to-date growing methods, and market requirements. In view of this, it seems that it would be better to work with progressive growers

(*Continued on page* 39)

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MACDONALD COLLEGE ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT TO MARKET DRUMMOND TIMOTHY

Under an exclusive agreement with the Agronomy Department of Macdonald College of McGill University, the improved forage variety called Drummond Timothy will be produced and marketed throughout Canada and possibly abroad by Hogg & Lytle Limited of Oakwood, Ontario.

This agreement marks a new step in production and distribution of improved forage varieties which heretofore have lacked adequate usage, states Professor Howard A. Steppler, Chairman of the College's Department of Agronomy. This is the first agreement of its kind concluded between a Canadian plant breeding institute and a seed company.

In making this announcement, Professor Steppler confirmed that Hogg & Lytle Limited has agreed to pay a nominal royalty on all Certified Drummond Timothy sold. This royalty is to be used to establish student scholarships for further basic research in plant breeding.

This exclusive new marketing agreement is expected to operate under the guidance of the Canadian Forage Seeds Project, to bring about maximum production and usage of pedigreed varieties of forage seed. Seed production will be under the supervision of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association.

Drummond is a late maturing Timothy, which permits late harvesting without loss of feeding quality. It is highly resistant to Timothy rust, and provides good yields. First bred at Macdonald College in 1933, Drummond Timothy has been extensively tested in Quebec and Eastern Canada, and also in the United States.

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EDITORIAL . . .

(*from page* 27)

groups of producers, except in the case of differences in quality, and then only if the producer voluntarily decides not to improve quality. This may be a gradual process *(if it is started now)* and may not result in pulling down prices which fluid shippers now receive.

Within the provinces we must price milk on the basis of quality and demand, and we must give every producer incentive to try for the top quality and top price, whatever it may be. Pricing milk on the basis of disposition, without allowing producers complete choice of outlet, has caused and is causing serious dislocation within the industry. With the union among dairy farmers this change should provide, perhaps they could boost their advertising campaign.

This editorial does not pretend to deal exhaustively with dairy industry problems but only to point at some of the major issues and the urgency of the situation. It is imperative that immediate action be taken by both levels of government. They should be encouraged and advised by all farmers. At all costs let us avoid any political expedients and may farmers realize that profit margins will be extremely narrow for a long time.

by L. G. Young

Signing the agreement are Dr. Steppler (left), Chairman of Agronomy Department and Mr. F. W. Presant, of Hogg and Lytle. Standing are, left to right: Prof. John Bubar, Prof. H. R. Klinck and Dean H. G. Dion of Macdonald College.

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WILDLIFE ON FARM LANDS . .

(*from page* 33)

cattle are allowed to use the pond as a water-hole, the banks will become trampled, mudcaked and eroded. Consequently the pond will lose all its attraction for wildlife. The presence of a pond not only increases the aesthetic and wildlife values of an area, but is also beneficial from the fire protection point-of-view, and aids in maintaining a good ground water supply.

Harvest Wildlife

Wildlife, like all other crops, should be harvested. If not harvested, all management programmes are useless and all wildlife products will be lost. Legislation governing harvest should be flexible enough so it can be modified in times of bumper crops and tightened in lean years. The wildlife community is a dynamic community, continually changing, and rules governing them should be that way too. The growing of game can fit into almost any land use programme, because wildlife is a product that flourishes with many kinds of land use. Continued revision of Canada's land use policy is necessary if we are going to supply the demands of our rapidly increasing population, recently estimated at 350,000 per annum. It must be remembered that in this country there is no difficulty in meeting the demand for wheat, but the demand for all forms of recreation continues to grow with increasing leisure time and population. Therefore a positive attitude towards wildlife, recreation and proper land use must be adopted when land management programmes are being formed.

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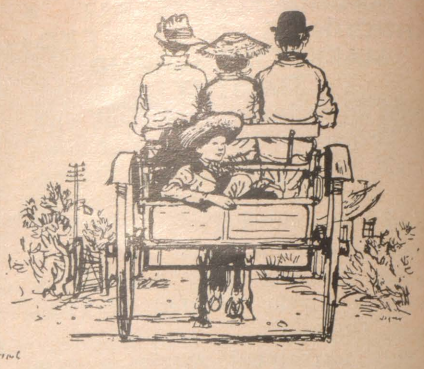
THE FUTURE OF . . .

(*from page* 38)

than with those who are satisfied with present conditions.

The Horticultural Service fully realizes the gravity of the situation and intends to modernize and perfect its own procedures and its methods of publishing recommendations: hence the value of a consulting and advisory committee such as the one which has just been formed. The Horticultural Service intends to call on the help of the Committee whenever the need arises and, by doing so, hopes to help the strawberry growers to improve their situation.

The Country Lane



IF I HAD KNOWN

If I had known what trouble you were bearing;
What griefs were in the silence of your face;
I would have been more gentle, and more caring,
And tried to give you gladness for a space.
I would have brought more warmth into the place,
If I had known.

If I had known what thoughts despairing drew you;
(Why do we never try to understand?)
I would have lent a little friendship to you,
And slipped my hand within your hand,
And made your stay more pleasant in the land,
If I had known.

— Mary Carolyn DAVIES.

FARMERS' STRIKE

A curry comb, an old check rein,
The curb bit for the bay—
The farm horse ghosts still linger there
In shadows bare and gray.

The big black's hair is matted in
The brush upon the wall.

The mane hair of a young roan mare
Clings to the single stall.

The unused harness rots away,
And names are turned to rust.

The empty manger gathers chaff;
The grain box fills with dust.

The double-trees and neck yoke lie
Unnoticed in the shed,
Except when curious children's hands
Stir memory of the dead.

The massive-bodied sorrels and roans
No longer fill the stalls.

The quiet is no longer pierced
With trumpet stallion calls.

Some stalls are rigged for feeding calves,
Pigs desecrate the box
Where broad-beamed Belgians stood and munched
With straw up to their hocks.

On down the road, five miles or so,
An old team walks the lane—
The remnant of the massive power
That plowed this rolling plain.

— Clark MOLLENHOFF.

DAYDREAM

She stands and gazes at the world
Through tiny panes of multi-coloured glass,
And, idly musing, sways her girlish head
As if to match each colour to a mood.

There are a multitude of pastel shades
That pattern friendships and the year's routine.
Ambition flashes with an orange flame,
Chill blues foreshadow fears unnamed.
Rose-coloured passion for a new romance!
Ah yes! And here is green for jealousy!
So still she stands, rapt in the inter-play
Of sunny gold amid such tenuous dreams!
The windows of our middle-age are clouded
With a grime, and flaws appear where she sees none.
Yet, can I say it would be better to see clear
As if through polished crystal panes, or none?

The heart is lifted in a mingling surge
Of happy love and sad nostalgia
To see her gazing outward at the world
Through tiny panes of multi-coloured glass!

— G. P. HAWKE
Farnham, P. Q.

CAGES

Sometimes when Life seems beautiful—and all is harmony . . . When all around are lovely things . . . and I am strong and free—I pause and think of captive things that peep at Life through bars, of animals and prisoners, who never see the stars . . . The air is sweet, the world is wide, the sky above is vast . . . And Youth is like some swift-winged bird—the moments fly too fast . . . And through my heart there sweeps a prayer of passion and of rage—O God of Mercy, pity things locked up inside a cage!—Patience Strong.

If a nation values anything more than freedom, it will lose its freedom; and if it is comfort or money that it values more, it will lose that too.

— W. Somerset MAUGHAN

St. Francis College, Richmond

Education was a primary concern of early settlers. St. Francis College was established 106 years ago to meet this need.

from a paper by
Edith S. Nicolson

After the defeat of Montcalm on the Plains of Abraham when the English took possession of New France, it was found that there was a large tract of forest wilderness on the south bank of the St. Lawrence River known only to the Indians and the coureurs des bois.

Looking forward to an influx of settlers from the Mother Country the new rulers offered this land to immigrants upon a tenure known as "full and common socage" — a system quite different from the seignorial tenure introduced under the French regime. Farmers wishing to settle in this section were requested to form themselves into small groups of about forty persons, known as "associates" with one of their number empowered to act as land agent in arranging all settlements with the Government. In exchange for the free grants of land these "associates" were required to accept certain obligations — such as those pertaining to the expense of surveying and building roads and the construction of mills within their territory. Since 1792 these early settlements have been known as the Eastern Townships.

On May 24, 1798, Elmore Cushing came with his family to Shipton — or what is now known as Richmond County — to claim a grant of land of 100,000 acres which he had received from the British Government as a reward for an act of loyalty to the Crown in giving information on a case of high treason during the American Revolution. Travelling by the Indian route which connected the Connecticut River with the St. Francis via Lake Memphremagog and the Magog River, a route employed by the Abenaki Indians in their many raids on the New England settlers, the first settler made his way into Richmond County.

As the community began to grow, and once the settlers had established themselves on their new lands, projects to benefit the entire settlement began to be considered. The first of these was the building of a road to Quebec City through the Townships. The route had been traced out in 1800, and when Governor Craig realized that this route would serve as a cheap means of transporting products to Quebec City, he undertook the immediate completion of the road. At a later date the road was extended to Montreal, and provided a highway for the transportation of military troops from Quebec to Montreal. To the people of this township the celebrated Craig road linked them with the two largest centres of Canada in that day.

The provision for education was another of the earliest community undertakings. The earliest school in Richmond was conducted in a private home by Miss Kimball. In 1807 the first schoolhouse was built, being constructed of round logs with basswood planks, split or hewn, to form benches and desks. Dr. Silver was the first teacher.

One of the most interesting and remarkable facts in the history of this community was the establishment of a small library known as the Craig Union Library, in 1815, at Shipton. Due to the efforts of about thirty-five men, some 150 books were obtained and these, though of a serious nature, provided means of instruction and entertainment for the whole community.

The first attempt to establish a school for higher education failed. Undaunted, these formidable people persevered and in 1855 a charter was granted to St. Francis College, and a preparatory school was opened in 1856. The College was erected on a hill overlooking the Town of Richmond and the beautiful valley of the St. Francis River. Affiliated with McGill University, the College prepared students for two years of work in Arts, and served not only its own community but a vast district extending from Chicoutimi on the Saguenay River to the New England States.

The widespread service of the College was partly due to the fact that living in a small community was less expensive than a city but more so to the high standard of education offered by this institution.

Unstinted praise is due those founders of the school who subscribed to the building and launched the enterprise at no small cost of both time and means. At first the annual cost of maintenance came from a Government grant together with contributions from citizens and tuition fees from the pupils — the latter being the chief source of revenue.

During the era of small things at McGill University, St. Francis College continued its affiliation with the University but requirements became so severe that the young College was forced to discontinue its university training in 1900, and became a high school, to be known as St. Francis College High School. Under control of the school board the College was supported by taxation and its permanency was assured.

If justification were needed for the foundation of St. Francis College it could be found in the mere mention of some of its graduates, many of whom have become well known in the various walks of Canadian life. We will enumerate a few: Dr. John A. Dresser, distinguished geologist, was the last Principal of St. Francis College and the first Principal of St. Francis College High School; Sir Melbourne Tait, Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Quebec; Dr. G. W. Parmelee, whose work for Protestant Education in Quebec is well known to all; George J. Hill, sculptor; Fred Coburn, artist; two Provincial Treasurers, The Hon. Henry T. Duffy and the Hon. Peter S. G. MacKenzie; J. Armitage Ewing, eminent Montreal lawyer; Senator A. J. Brown, now a Governor of McGill University, and his classmate, the late J. N. Greenshields.

THE COMMUNITY "SUPPER"

How to prepare a tasty "supper", avoid poisoning your friends and enjoy the food and fun yourself!

by Prof. Diane RAYMOND
School of Household Science

One of the nicer continuing customs of many rural communities is that of having during the year one or more group "suppers" — generally held in the local Church hall because it offers the most usable space. Given for many reasons, it attracts all age groups in the community.

A group of local women assume the job of planning, organizing and serving the meal, while the objective is to raise funds for a specific purpose, it also provides an opportunity for a social gathering and is looked forward to with keen anticipation by all.

Unfortunately, as often happens, those most deeply involved in the actual work are too tired to enjoy the fruits of their labours; and occasionally a rather unpleasant followup of the meal is an outbreak of food poisoning.

For those of you who are or may be involved in the organization of group meals here are a few suggestions that will let you participate in and enjoy the supper, and will insure the safety of the food offered to the guests.

Fundamentally the presentation of a group supper is on a volunteer basis. Its successful completion depends on the active co-operation of all concerned. The first step is to make a plan of the whole project, break it down into the various jobs and see each member of the committee has her own portion of responsibility, yet realizes where she fits into the total picture and how important each individual's contribution is.

Many kitchens in the church halls are most inadequate for the preparation of anything more elaborate than a cup of coffee. For this reason much of the food preparation has to be done in their own homes by committee members and the completed item brought to the hall on the day required.

Some kitchens have more equipment and space. However, usually little consideration has been given to see that they meet standards set up by public health authorities for safe food service in public places. Little or no refrigerated storage space is available. Often work counter space and holding space is one and the same, so that food is, of necessity, piled on top of other food or placed on the floor or left uncovered and vulnerable to dust flies and other insects.

Menu is the Key

Your original planning should include a menu. This may be simple or extremely elaborate depending on the capabilities and versatilities of the group. A simple menu is easier to handle, easier to serve, and usually is a better prepared and better accepted meal. If you have local prize winning specialties such as pickles, jellies, or jams, add them to your menu. They give it more interest without increasing the preparation necessary and in addition they give your local talent recognition.

Remember your limitations in planning your menu. If refrigeration is scarce don't include the more perishable foods. They will not be at their best, appearance wise or taste wise, but what is more serious, if not properly handled they may rapidly develop a high bacteria count that cannot be seen or tasted yet can have most dangerous results.

You may want to have a variety of salads: slaws, greens, potato, fruit, etc. Fine! But keep the salad dressing separate from the other ingredients until just before serving time — it's safer, and the salads are crisper and tastier.

Avoid the cream or custard type pie unless you are sure it can be made fresh on the day of use and can be held under refrigeration until served.

If you are planning for sandwiches, follow the same careful handling that you would with other perishable food. How many wedding receptions or picnics have added to food poisoning statistics because someone made sandwich fillings with meat, fish or eggs and salad dressing and then didn't think of refrigerating the mixture or the sandwiches after making? Or perhaps they made them a day ahead and left them in a so called "cool" place where the temperature was "just right" for the bacteria to grow and multiply!

If your food is to be entirely "donated", still stick to your menu. Tell the donors what you need and let them choose which of these items they wish to provide. Don't hesitate to make it clear that for safety's sake you could not accept food prepared by anyone with an infection of any kind, or a severe cold. The possibility of passing

(*Continued on page* 43)

Stop • Look • Read

Mrs. H. L. CASS,
Convener of Health and Welfare
Quebec Women's Institutes

A very important section in most of our large city hospitals is what is known as a Poison Control Centre which deals with all accidents pertaining to medicinal or chemical poisoning occurring at home or industry. This is, of course, a centre with special equipment and trained personnel to deal with all conditions that might arise. However, the best contribution to poison control would be the exercising of the utmost care in handling of all drugs and medicine in our own homes.

Our medicine cabinets, properly supplied, are a wonderful help to us and our families and should be replenished with non-poisonous drugs and disinfectants. *If it is necessary to keep any poisons in the home they should be kept under lock and key far from curious little hands.* I think especial care should be taken when there is illness in the home, that no medicines be left where young children can reach them. It seems to be a natural inclination, if one child is getting a lot of attention because of illness and medicines are being administered, that another child will take advantage of the situation and help himself to all or any pills within reach.

Patent medicines are carefully checked by the Food and Drug Act of Canada, but it is not the drug companies fault if people do not read the explicit directions that are on the label. *Read directions through twice very carefully before taking or administering any medicine.* Also check whatever directions the Doctor has written on your prescription. Do not follow the idea of some people who think that, if one is good two might be better. In one instance I know of, a person, not bothering to read the directions properly, took four times the prescribed dose in a certain time, with disastrous results as you can imagine. It is because of this careless attitude while taking and administering drugs that we are compelled to constantly be on the alert and strive to educate people especially parents to all the dangers involved.

Another timely warning is *not to give prescriptions that have been filled for some member of the family for a specific reason, to another member of the family, or a neighbour,* without first consulting the doctor who gave you the prescription. It does not necessarily follow that what was good for you would be equally good for someone else. Do not be like the woman I know who gave some of the pills she was taking for high blood pressure to her friend, with the result that her friend had a bad reaction to them. It is all right to play doctor with make believe pills but certainly not with the real thing.

At this point I would like to stress the importance of properly giving and taking care of aspirins. In itself aspirin is not among the more dangerous of drugs. *But because it is so widely used and often left lying around, aspirin is the most common childhood poison.* Its attractive taste and clever flavoring plus the fact its poisoning symptoms are delayed, make it a real danger in families with small children. The results of these aspirin poisonings have been at times tragic; paralysis, deafness and even death. Surveys recently completed have shown that 40% of poisonings in children due to medicine consumption and 25% of all chemical poisonings are due to the careless handling of aspirin.

(*Continued on page* 45)

THE COMMUNITY SUPPER . . .

(*from page* 42)

these on through food is a risk that it is not necessary to take.

Avoid Unnecessary Handling

Once the food has been prepared avoid any unnecessary handling. If your food is to be served buffet style ask the donors to bring it in a container that can go right on the buffet. There is always the chance of contamination in transfering food from one container to another.

If you are very short of space to hold food as it is received, set up a temporary receiving table. As the food is received cover it with a clean sheet or mosquito netting. Try to arrange the delivery time to be as close to serving time as possible and you won't have to worry about holding food for long periods of time.

If you are serving hot items and have limited heating space, have the container of food wrapped in foil, then in several thicknesses of newspaper. This will hold the heat in and the item should not have to be re-heated.

Keep hot and cold foods separated. You might set up a temporary ice tray and set items you want to keep chilled on top of it.

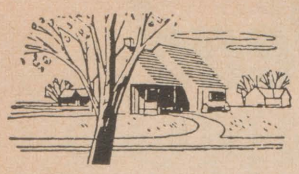
You will find you tire and become irritated over trifles if you are working in cramped quarters, so if this is a problem steal a little space from your dining area. On tables in this space you could cut pies, put out desserts or perform other space-requiring jobs. A handy husband might be able to make a simple upright set of free-standing shelves that could hold the plated items you have prepared. This would release the tables for serving use once you open doors to the crowds.

This shelf would serve a double purpose, holding the food safely and making it readily accessible for serving. A clean cotton or netting cover will keep the exposed foods protected from dust and insects as well as from inquisitive fingers.

Avoid Dishwashing

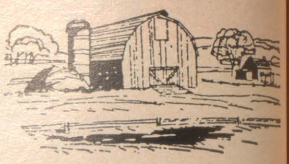
Dishwashing is a problem and a chore. Avoid part or all of it by using disposable paper or plastic dishes, cutlery and cups. Their cost is nominal. All types of attractive and seasonal designs are available. They also provide protection against another form of food service hazards, the unclean dish. The only safe dish is a clean one, and if dishwashing facilities are inadequate, you will not have clean dishes no matter how good your intentions are. It is possible that all the boiling water you have is going to be needed for the coffee — and cannot be available for dishwashing. Use it for the coffee, and you can join the party knowing that there are no dishes to be washed. Everything can be collected in a cardboard carton and disposed of when the last drop of coffee has been drunk.

These suggestions are aimed at making a pleasant job more pleasant and safer, and should produce a cry of, "When can we do it again?", from everyone.



The Better Impulse

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF QUEBEC



CANADIAN CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION

We will be sending a delegate to the Canadian Conference on Education in Montreal next March. 2000 delegates are expected representing 75 organizations and municipal, provincial and federal governments. Special emphasis will therefore be on Education in 1962 and the study areas are: aim of education in a free society; professional status of teachers; development of student potential; new developments in society; financing education; continuing education; research in education; citizen in education; education and employment.

It is suggested that communities should start now planning 1-day conferences, using the study guide supplied by the Can. Conference on Education; panel discussions; hold an Education Fair showing the work of the students of the community, using their assistance in planning.

CAC RATES

The new rates of the Consumers Association of Canada (CAC's new name) are as follows: Individual $2; Sustaining $10; Student $1; Group membership—up to 10 members with 7 bulletins — $5; for groups over 10 up to 15 bulletins, $10. The CAC has launched a membership drive. It is well to remember that the bigger the organization, the more effective they can be in their work for all consumers —which includes the QWI.

SAFETY!

"MY GOD! My God! I didn't mean to do it," is a phrase heard many times by policemen, doctors, and ambulance drivers, as they remove the dead and mangled bodies from our great highways day after day throughout the country.

It isn't a very pretty sight either to remove the body of a baby from a plastic bag, or to drag the dark depths of rivers or lakes to recover the bodies of the drowned. Try, some day, to tell a mother that her son will never return, or help to remove the charred bodies of men, women or children from the burned remains of a home or other building, or hear the screams of the injured. Rather a startling way to begin a short talk on safety, isn't it? But it happens every day, and why? Because we haven't taken time to think and act safely.

Stop, look, and listen, is something taught to all children by their parents but the problem is that they do not practice what they preach. Many teach children safety, but fail to pratise it. For instance, I had occasion to watch some of the pedestrians on Main St. during Christmas shopping. Grown people, with small children by the hand, jaywalking, crossing between cars, dashing across the street in front of moving cars, looking in one direction and crossing in another, in fact, doing everything they teach their children not to do. Until such time as we, the grown-ups, actually set the example, we cannot expect our children to accept safety, nor to practise it.

We wouldn't let our children play with fire, but we leave matches within their reach. We don't let them play with electricity, but we "get along" with a frayed ironing cord. We are very careful to give them medicine ONLY as prescribed by a doctor, then promptly leave the medicine within reach of any of them.

I do not infer that we are all careless blockheads, but I do say that, until such time as we make safety part of our every day lives, accidents will continue and will increase.

To motorists: **Drive safely, obey traffic regulations, consider the other fellow, and remember the child you save may be your own.**

TO homemakers: **Bear in mind more injuries are caused through home accidents than in any other way.** Call your local fire and police chiefs, ask them to check your home and your car for safety, get to know them, they want to know you, they want to help you.

Stop - Look - Listen AND THINK.

Prepared by A. J. Whiteway, Chief of Police, St. Andrews East, P.Q., for Miss Hanna Smith, Convener of Education.

Dunham president Mrs. Calvin Harvey presenting life membership to Mrs. Carol Farnam.

Branch programs should be sent to your county secretary, who sends them all together to the office for printing. PLEASE see that all officers' names are given.

FROM THE OFFICE

Mrs. Ossington would like to thank all those who so kindly remembered her with cards and letters at the time of her accident. She says, 'Just wonderful and it cheered me considerably.' The cast has been removed, but it still takes time. Mrs. Beattie is now wearing a cast on her arm.

Most branches will have received a 'foreign' magazine in the monthly mailing. It was not an accident. Several come to the office each month and as it did not seem fair to hoard them, they will be sent out each month to the Institutes in alphabetical order by counties.

'The Retarded Ones' in the January issue was written by Miss Hanna Smith, Prov. Conv. of Education, in collaboration with Mrs. MacIntosh, Dewittsville, and Mrs. A. Hanly, Lachute.

STOP • LOOK . . (*from page* 43)

We will soon be starting our annual clean-up in our homes. Do start with your medicine cabinet. *Dispose of all your old medicines* as often after being exposed to the air or light chemical changes take place that render them useless, or sometimes harmful. This applies to ointments of all kinds. If they have been kept for long periods of time they are not sterile and should not be used. Do not throw out bottles of pills or medicine that might result in a child finding them either at the dump or in some obscure corner where they were thrown. *Burn pills and empty all liquids down the sink or flush all medicines down the toilet.* At any rate, empty all bottles before disposing of them. This way you will be sure. And I do not believe we can emphasize this too much — to be sure is much better than being sorry.

We are blessed with wonderful drugs and medicines to help us in our illnesses. Do use precaution and treat them all with respect. Consult your Doctor and follow his advice to the letter. In this way we can be sure of doing our best for our families and ourselves.

The Month With The W.I.

CHRISTMAS meetings were reported by every branch, with the usual exchange of gifts, carol singing, and other activities that go to make up a Christmas program. Many donations were made to the less fortunate, and the amount of Christmas Cheer dispensed by the Q.W.I. seemes to grow larger every year. The Education Questionnaire is getting the full attention of the branches, and Mrs. Ellard's newsletter was very favourably received. We hope that our busy president will find time to make this a "habit."

BONAVENTURE:

Grand Cascapedia had a visit from the County President who spoke on Education. **Marcil** sent a Memorial gift to the Red Cross, and **Matapedia** have purchased cod-liver oil capsules for children in local schools. **Restigouche** donated blankets to a family who lost their belongings in a fire.

BROME:

Austin sent a Canadian Pictorial Calendar Towel and a subscription to the Macdonald Journal to their English Link. **Knowlton's Landing** sent sewing Kits to the USC, and are giving $10 per month for milk for needy school children.

CHATEAUGUAY-HUNTINGDON:

Aubrey-Riverfield enjoyed a Pot-Luck dinner and a visit from the County President, Mrs. Middlemiss. 2 quilts were made and donated to Welcome Hall in Montreal. **Dewittville** had a demonstration on Christmas Home decorations given by Mrs. Betty Beal. **Dundee** learned how to care for the hair and how to put in pin-curls. The demonstration was given by Mrs. Brodie Gardiner, who used a member as a model. **Franklin Centre** held a card party, and **Hemmingford** catered to a banquet for Little League and Hockey players. A contest for an "unusually wrapped gift" was won by Mrs. W. Keddy, Mrs. D. Laurie and Mrs. J. Robertson. **Huntingdon** had a minute of silence in memory of the late Mrs. E. McEwan. Suggestions were brought in for a new program, and a Spelling Match held. **Ormstown** heard Five Golden Rules for lifelong good Health, given by their Welfare and Health Convener, Mrs. R. Ovans.

COMPTON:

Bury heard how the New Year is celebrated by different religions and nationalities in an article read by Mrs. A. Sutherland, Citizenship convener. Mrs. R. Dougherty, Home Economics convener told how to re-decorate the Christmas Tree when it is taken from the house, with morsels for the birds. Prizes for Public Speaking were given to the school. **Canterbury** remembered an elderly man in the community with donations of cooking. **Cookshire** were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. John French who gave the biographies of Henry Drummond and Pauline Johnson, and recited some of their poems. **East Angus** enjoyed three films shown by Miss Runnells —"Youth and Music", "Jolifore Inn" and "Rugmaking." A Paper Drive was held. **Sawyerville** report a Food Sale and a Card Party.

GASPE:

Gaspe held a Christmas Party and invited non-members as guests. **Wakeham** collected a large box of books which was divided between the local hospital and the Sanitarium. Another parcel of clothing was sent to the USC and a donation given towards Hot Lunches at the school. **York** brought in Casserole Dishes and the recipes for them, for their Roll Call. Gifts were sent to children in the hospital, and the USC also received a parcel from this branch.

GATINEAU:

Aylmer East enjoyed vocal solos by Mrs. W. M. Drummond, and **Eardley** heard a talk given by Mrs. Mildred Robinson of Ottawa, on her visit to Europe. Slides were also shown. A donation was given to the local hockey rink. **Lakeview** saw pictures on traffic rules, and **Rupert** sent boxes of prunes to the Gatineau hospital and the Brookdale Farm Home. **Wright** sent jams and jellies to the Gatineau hospital, and enjoyed Christmas readings and a carol party. Reports were also received from **Kazabazua** and **Lower Eardley.**

JACQUES CARTIER:

Ste. Anne de Bellevue exchanged home remedies for accidents or illness under the supervision of Mrs. Cuscack, Welfare and Health convener. The Pennies for Friendship gift was won by Mrs. Bowker, who will bring a gift for the next meeting.

MEGANTIC:

Inverness enjoyed Novelty Bingo, and their roll call was—"How old would you like to be for the rest of your life." Slides were shown by the Agriculture convener, some of which were taken at the Jubilee. **Kinnear's Mills** presented a gift to a member for her baby boy. A successful card party was held to raise funds.

MISSISQUOI:

Cowansville gave a scholarship to a Grade IX pupil in the High School, and **Dunham's** roll call was "What kind of a W.I. meeting do you prefer?" **Fordyce** saw a filmstrip on the ACWW Conference, and answered the roll call by reading an account of this

conference from the report book. Ironstone dishes were brought in to be sent to the County Museum. **Stanbridge East** welcomed a new member, Mrs. Orval Casey. For roll call each member wore a hat made by herself, the winner was Mrs. Neil Creller, who wore an aluminum pie plate with crepe paper trimmings.

MONTCALM:

Rawdon report that Dental Clinic work is now in progress.

PAPINEAU:

Lochaber sent plants to their shut-in members, and cigarettes to the gentlemen. Chronically ill hospital patients were also remembered.

PONTIAC:

Elmside are to collect Pennies for Friendship at each meeting. Papers were read on Skim Milk Products, The Observer, The Function of Home Economics and From a Road-side Window. **Fort Coulonge** sent gifts to the Brookdale Children's Farm, and

Some of the sewing class at Notre Dame du Nord.

How WI members keep slim — at the Leadership Course anyway.

Quyon sponsored a dinner for older people and shut-ins, and they report the Red Cross Blood Bank as a project. **Shawville** had a program in charge of the Home Economics convener who invited a sewing machine company representative to demonstrate. A drawing was held on 2 packs of playing cards in a hand-made leather case. These were donated to this branch by the CNIB in return for a collection made for this society. **Stark Corners** brought in used stamps for the Red Cross, and they report a good sum received in exchange for IGA tapes. **Wyman** enjoyed accordian music played by Mrs. Everett McCorriston.

RICHMOND:

Melbourne Ridge brought in jams and jellies to be sent to the Wales Home, and a donation was made to the Hot Lunch Fund at St. Francis High School. A Blindfold Potato Peeling Contest was won by Mrs. W. Nelson and Mrs. N. Fowler. **Richmond Hill** held a guessing contest on the contents of a box, and discussed what to exhibit at the local Fair. **Richmond Young Women** are making layettes for Unitarian Relief, and they also donated to the Hot Lunch Fund at St. Francis. **Shipton** are to take up a special collection to help branches in the N.W. Territories. This is to commemorate the 65th Anniversary of the founding of the W. I. in Canada.

ROUVILLE:

Abbotsford sent gifts to the Cecil Butters Memorial Home. A humorous reading by Gregory Clark was read by a member.

SHEFFORD:

Granby Hill sent a gift to Mrs. Ossington, Prov. Vice-President, who has been laid up with a broken heel. Their roll call was "Name some little thing that gets your goat"—the cutest answer came from a gracious lady of 92 years—"I don't have a goat—just sheep." **Granby West** brought in gifts to be given to needy children at the High School. This branch also sponsored a Bridge and 500 party, with proceeds going to the Hot Lunch program at the school. **Waterloo-Warden** gave a cent for every letter in their names. Books were sent to new Northern branches, and a U.N. flag was purchased for their High School. A donation was also made to the school towards dental bills for the needy.

SHERBROOKE:

Ascot gave a donation for gifts for cancer patients. **Brompton Road** sent greetings to Her Majesty the Queen and various branch presidents. They also report a New Year's Dance, two suppers and a Horror Auction. **Lennoxville** worked at the Cancer Dressing Station making bed pads. They held a bazaar and sent their dues to the Service Fund. **Milby** saw a film and heard a talk on Cancer given by Dr. and Mrs. Klinck.

STANSTEAD:

Ayers Cliff sent gifts to the Dixville Home and had a quiz on the Education systems of Schools. **Beebe** also studied Education and remembered the Dixville Home with gifts. **Minton** report that three members have taken a course in block printing. A box was sent to the Cecil Memorial Home. **Ways Mills** discussed Education and sent gifts to the Dixville Home.

MACDONALD ROYAL '62

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

PROGRAM

9:00 a.m.	Opening of Livestock Show	Judging Pavilion
10:00 a.m.	Official Opening, CROWNING OF THE QUEEN	Assembly Hall
10:45 a.m.	Welcome to High School Students	Assembly Hall
11:30 a.m.	Physical Education Display	Stewart Hall Gym
1:00 p.m.	Livestock Show	Judging Pavilion
1:20 p.m.	Rhythms Display	Stewart Hall
1.30 p.m.	Square Dance Display	Stewart Hall
2.00 p.m.	Physical Education Display	Stewart Hall
2.00 p.m.	Low Calorie Desserts Display	Main Building
3:00 & 3:30 p.m.	Puppet Show	Main Building
3:00 p.m.	Fashion Show	Assembly Hall
3:15 p.m.	Royal Tea	Laird Hall
3:30 p.m.	Livestock Showman Competition	Judging Pavilion
7.15 p.m.	Presentation of Awards	Assembly Hall
8.30 p.m.	Green and Gold Revue	Assembly Hall

CONTINUING EVENTS

Extension Service Display	Basement, Main Building
Art Display	Main Building
Audio-Visual Display	Main Building
Foreign Breads Display	Main Building
Home Economics Lab Display	Main Building
Inter-Option Booth Display	Main Building
Machinery Display	Stewart Hall
Student Organization Displays	Glenfinnan Rink
Textile Clothing Display	Main Building
Women's Institutes Display	Basement, Main Building
Student Publications Display	Brittain Hall

• • •

Visitors looking at the College herds during a recent "Royal". Displays and tours are planned for 1962.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

LIVESTOCK SHOW

The 1962 Royal Livestock Show promises to be the most competitive yet. An all time high of 120 individuals will be showing in a record breaking number of classes and will be competing for the Montreal Farmers' Club Cup given to the Grand Champion Showman.

●

EXHIBITS

As well as the traditional booth displays, there will be special demonstrations by the Home Economic girls on the third floor of the Main Building, and special booths by the International Students Organization, the West Indian Society and the Armed Forces. We are also proud to draw your attention to the new library, and the facilities of the Extension Service, and the Quebec Women's Institutes in their new location in the Main Building.

●

GUEST SPEAKER

Special guest at the Royal will be Mr. H. L. Trueman, Foreign Agricultural Relations Officer, Canada Department of Agriculture, who will officially open the Royal with his address at 10.00 a.m. in the Assembly Hall. Dr. Laura C. Pepper, Chief, Consumer Section, Canada Department of Agriculture, and Mr. J. C. Bremner, Director of Extension, New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, and Dr. S. Davison of the Montreal School Board will pool their resources in an attempt to decide the best in the Inter-option Booth Competition.

THE MILK REPLACER "FÉDÉRÉE" FOR CALVES... A MONEY SAVER!

QUESTIONS:

1) **What is this product Fédérée?**

2) **How can a farmer save money in using the MILK REPLACER FÉDÉRÉE?**

ANSWERS:

1) **The Milk Replacer "FÉDÉRÉE" is a product which replaces milk in the calf's ration.**

   It contains all the nutritious ingredients of the whole milk; plus, all vital vitamins and a high percentage of antibiotics.

2) **Each time you buy a bag (25 pounds) of MILK REPLACER FÉDÉRÉE, you save the difference between what it costs you and the price of 200 pounds of milk.**

This table shows your savings:

200 # of milk x $2.75	=	$5.50
1 bag of Milk Replacer Fédérée (25 pounds)	=	$3.00
Minimum net savings	=	$2.50

AT YOUR CO-OP WHERE YOU HAVE CONTROL

COOPÉRATIVE FÉDÉRÉE DE QUÉBEC — Fédérée

Marché Central Métropolitain —
1055 Cremazie Blvd. West, P. O. Box 500, Station Youville, Montreal, P.Q.